

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. WEAT/0485

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Bernd-Georg Pietras, et al.

Serial No.: 10/681,570

Confirmation No.: 6819

Filed: October 8, 2003

For: Tong Assembly

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Group Art Unit: 3652

Examiner: Unknown

Customer No.: 36735

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <u>FEB 16, 2004</u>	
Jason C. Huang Typed Name	 Signature

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The Applicants, and the Attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor and the information in his file, submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware, which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While the information submitted in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is prior art for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

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The patents and/or publications submitted herewith are set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449.

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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 2

Application Number	10/681,570
Filing Date	October 8, 2003
First Named Inventor	Bernd-Georg Pietras
Group Art Unit	3652
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	WEAT/0485
Submission Date	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
	B1	WO 01/66905	09-13-2001	Robichaux		
	B2	WO 01/38688	05-31-2001	Pietras		
	B3	WO 01/09479	02-08-2001	Pietras, et al.		
	B4	WO 01/03889	01-18-2001	Bangert		
	B5	WO 00/79092	12-28-2000	Best		
	B6	GB 2 346 577	08-16-2000	Schulze-Beckinghause et al.		
	B7	GB 2 346 576	08-16-2000	Schulze-Beckinghausen		
	B8	WO 00/45027	08-03-2000	Schulze-Beckinghausen		
	B9	WO 00/45026	08-03-2000	Schulze-Beckinghausen		
	B10	WO 00/23686	04-27-2000	Koch et al.		
	B11	WO 00/22278	04-20-2000	Ayling		
	B12	99/34091	07-08-1999	Van Wechem et al.		
	B13	WO 99/34090	07-08-1999	Van Wechem et al.		
	B14	WO 99/34089	07-08-1999	Van Wechem, et al.		
	B15	WO 98/32948	07-30-1998	Pietras		
	B16	WO 98/16716	04-23-1998	Ayling		
	B17	GB 2 300 896	11-20-1996	Wainwright et al.		
	B18	WO 95/20471	08-03-1995	Richardson		
	B19	WO 93/18276	09-16-1993	Pietras		
	B20	EP 0 525 247	02-03-1993	Willis		
	B21	WO 92/18744	10-29-1992	Pietras		
	B22	EP 0 423 055	04-17-1991	Moses		
	B23	EP 0 339 005	10-25-1989	Vatne		
	B24	EP 0 311 455	04-12-1989	Haney		
	B25	EP 0 285 386	10-05-1988	Haney		
	B26	GB 2 128 526	05-02-1984	Jurgens		
	B27	GB 2 049 518	12-31-1980	Mooney		
	B28	DE 2 128 362	01-27-1972	Jonsson		

Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number		10/681,570	
				Filing Date		October 8, 2003	
				First Named Inventor		Bernd-Georg Pietras	
				Group Art Unit		3652	
				Examiner Name		Unknown	
				Attorney Docket Number		WEAT/0485	
Sheet	1	of	2	Submission Date			

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
	B1	1 215 967	12-16-1970			
	B2	WO 83/03443	10-13-1983	Ruesse		
	B3					
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Examiner

Date Considered

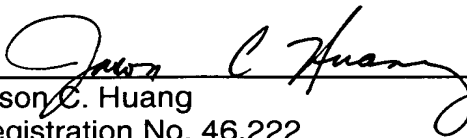
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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If the sum of \$180.00 is due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) pursuant to § 1.97, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this fee, and any other fee necessary to make this submission timely, to the Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0485/JCH.

Respectfully submitted,



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